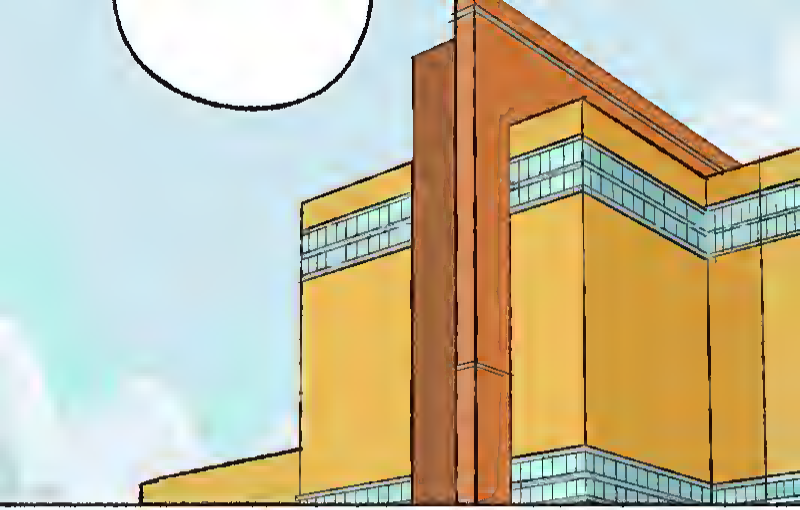
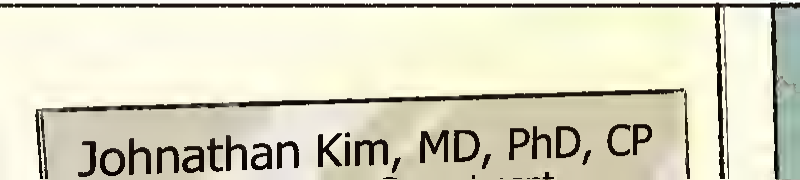
Amy?

What are you doing here?
Um--
I wanted to talk to you...

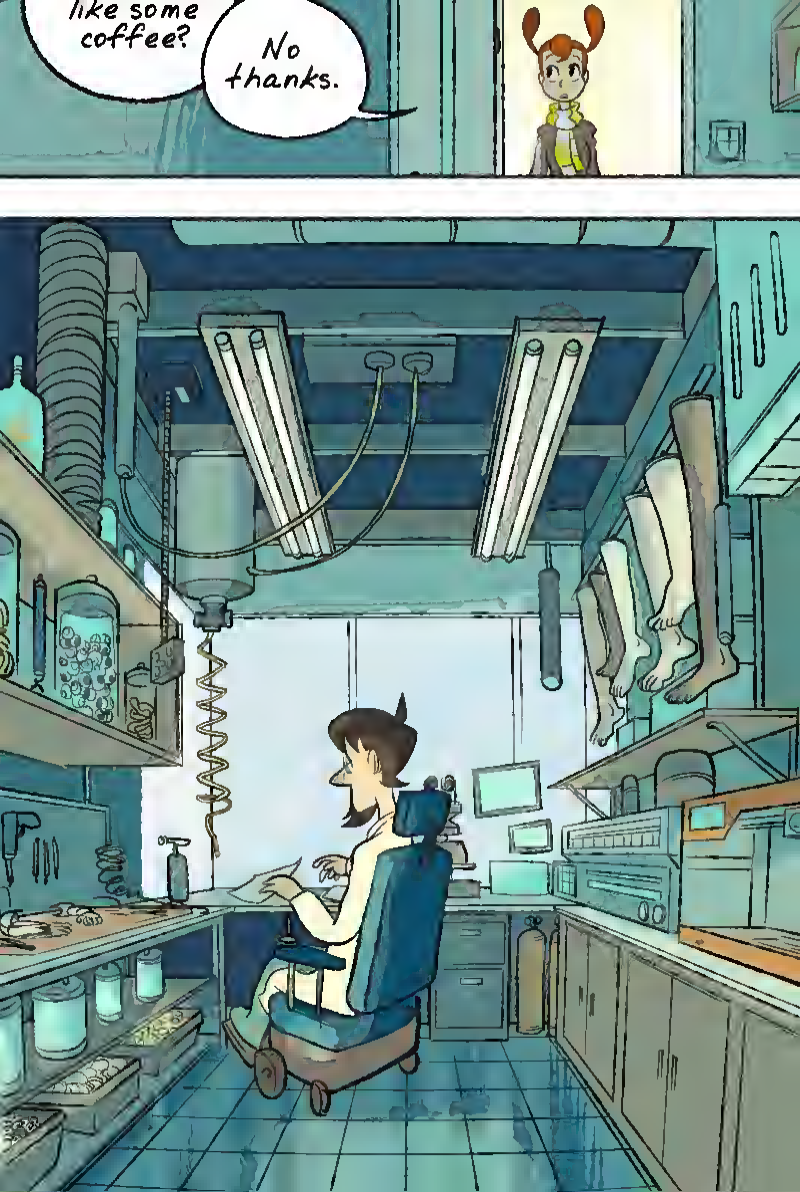
...about
Oliver.

Yes.

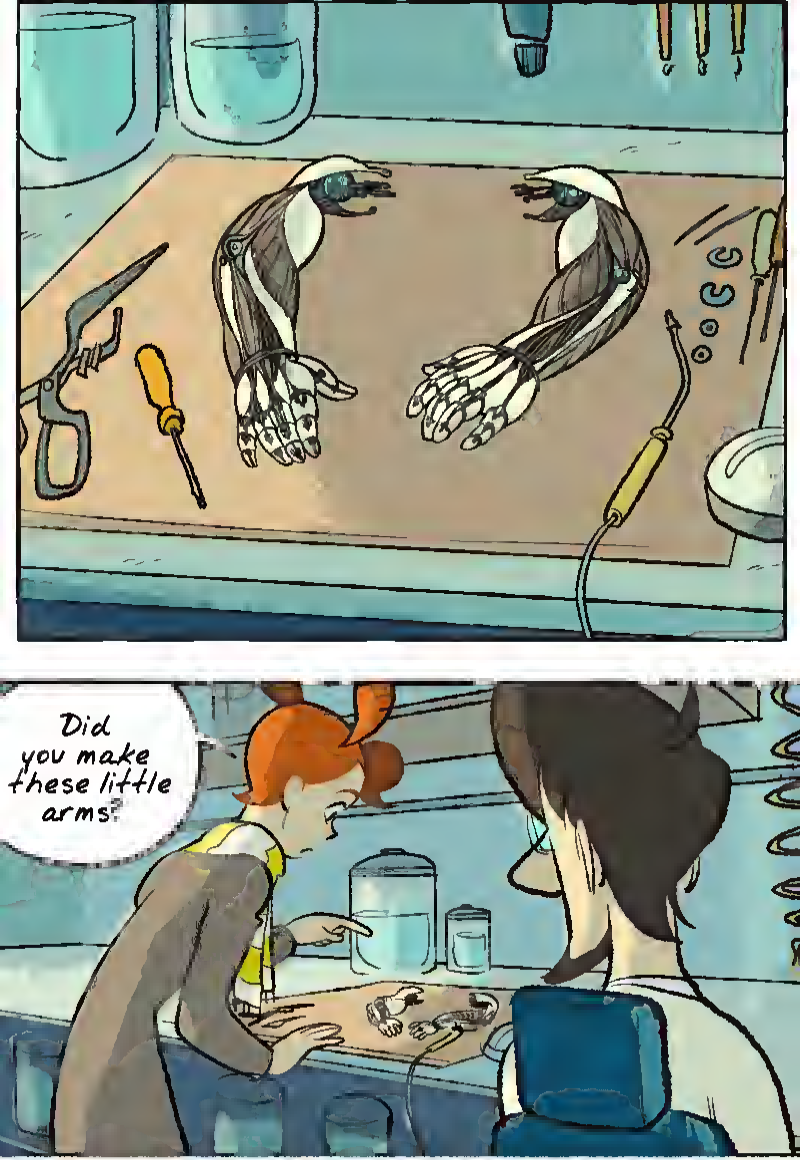



Johnathan Kim, MD, PhD, CP

Prosthetics Department
My office is a bit of a mess...
I hope you don't mind.
Johnathan Kim, MD, PhD, CP
Prosthetics Department
Would you

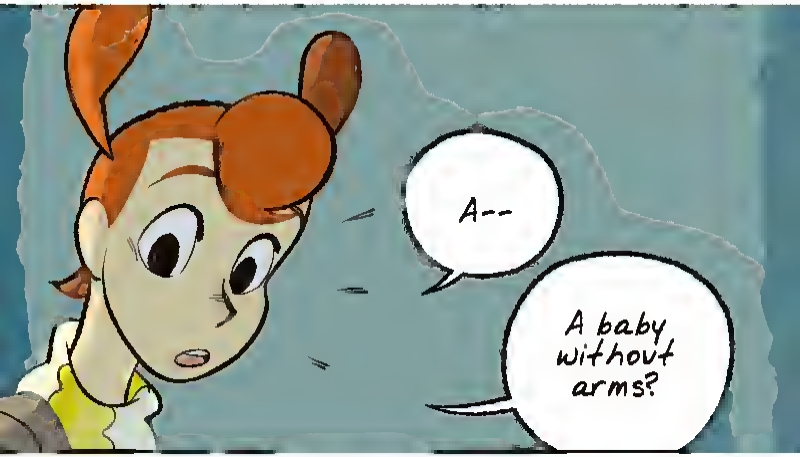

like some coffee?
No thanks.

Wow...


Did you make these little arms?

Yes.
I just need to apply a layer of artificial skin and they'll be done.
They're so small...
Yeah...
They're for a

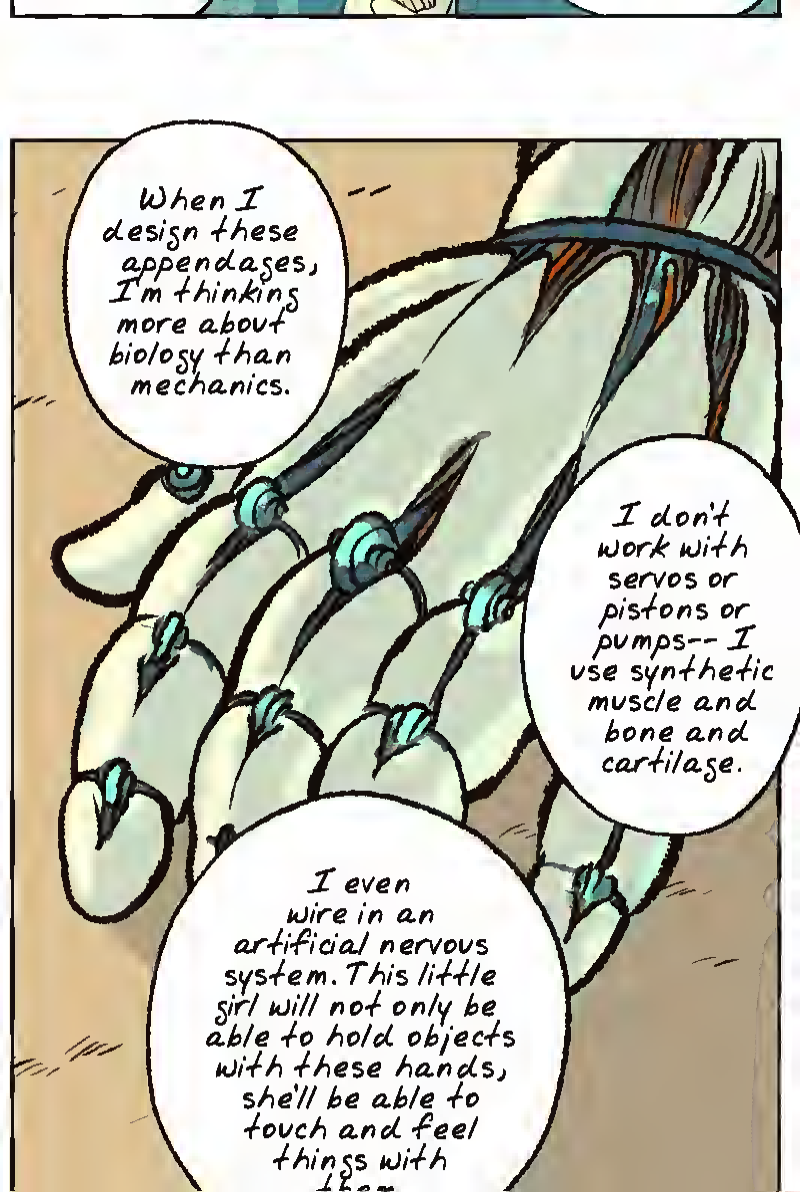
baby.


A--
A baby without arms?

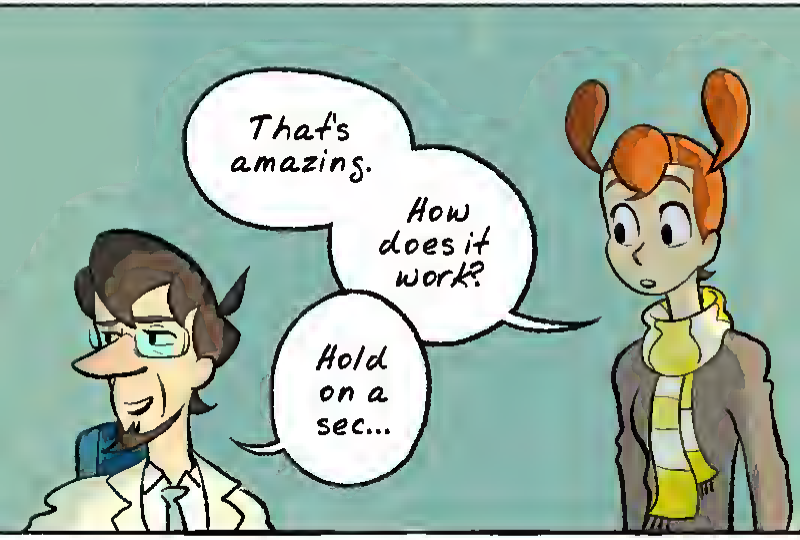
I'm afraid so.
She was born with Holt-Oram syndrome.
It's

a disorder that causes limb abnormalities and sometimes heart defects.
That's so sad...
Don't worry...
I can assure you this girl will have a perfectly normal life.

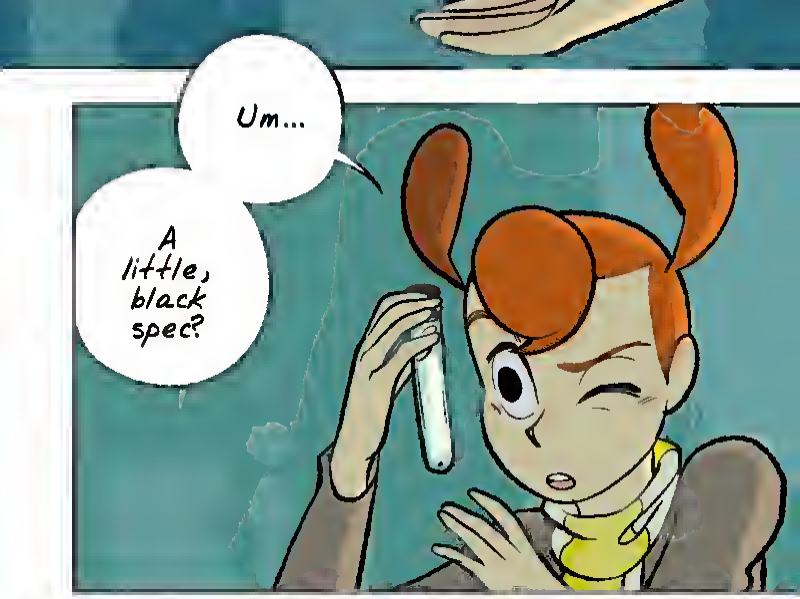
Even with robot arms?
They're not robot arms.
They're high-end prosthetics.
What's the difference?
Well for one, robot arms are for robots.
Prosthetics are for people.


When I design these appendages, I'm thinking more about biology than mechanics.
I don't work with servos or pistons or pumps-- I use synthetic muscle and bone and cartilage.
I even wire in an artificial nervous system. This little girl will not only be able to hold objects with these hands, she'll be able to touch and feel things with

them.


That's amazing.
How does it work?
Hold on a sec...

What do you see inside this test tube?


Um...
A little, black spec?

It's a microchip.
We're going to implant it into the girl's brain.

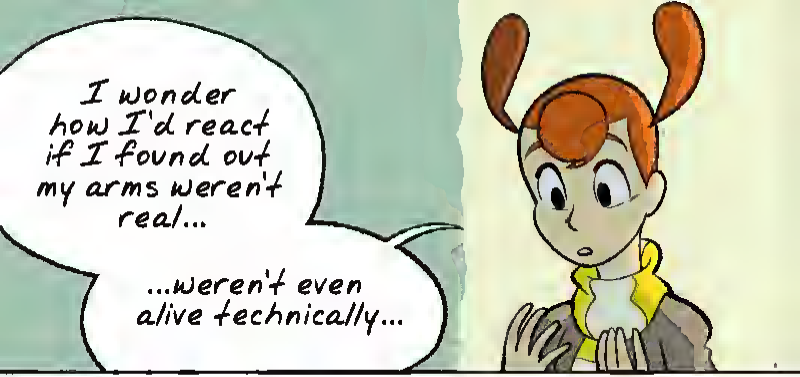
What?
It's very safe,

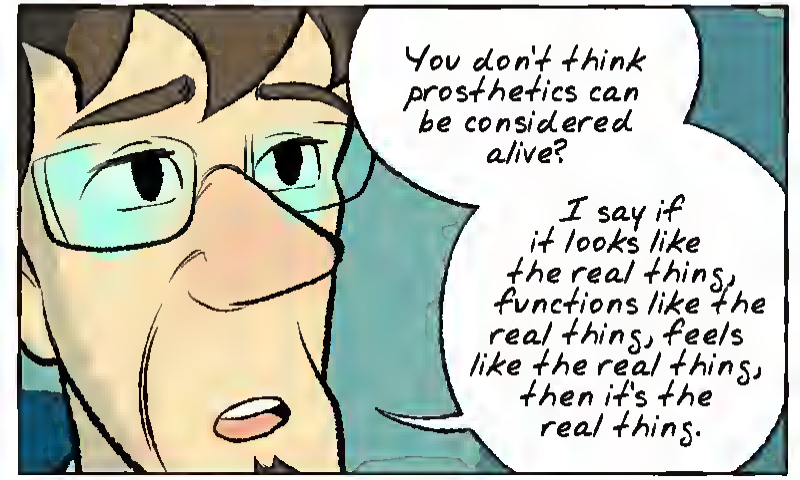
I assure you.
That chip will allow her brain to send and recieve signals from the prosthetic.
In other words, she'll have full sensitivity and full control over the arms.
Wow...
So she probably won't even know she's using prosthetics until she gets older...

Most likely.

What a shock it will be when she finally finds out she wasn't born with arms...

Well, it's a small price to pay if she never has to feel the effects of her disability.


I wonder how I'd react if I found out my arms weren't real...
...weren't even alive technically...


You don't think prosthetics can be considered alive?
I say if it looks like the real thing, functions like the real thing, feels like the real thing, then it's the real thing.

Ammm...

I don't

know what to think about that, but I have a feeling Oliver would disagree with you.

Ah, yes, well, we both know how stubborn Oliver is about his principles, don't we?

Sigh.
I'm sorry.
Listen, I know why you're here. It's just--
--I don't think I can help you.

I want to talk to Oliver.

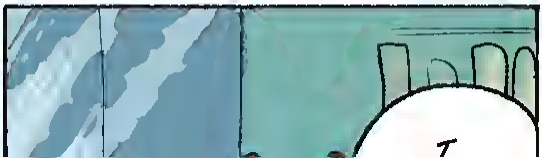
want you to talk to Oliver.
He needs someone to pull him out of his own gloom.

Then give me a chance to see him!
Please!

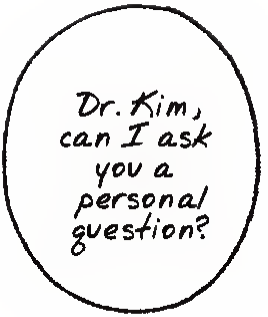
Amy...
Do you really think I have that much control over him?
Do you think anyone does?
Besides, he wouldn't listen to me.
He's essentially cut me out of his life.
He did that to you too?
Why?

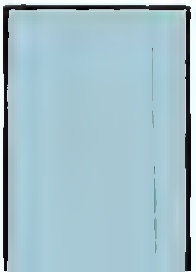
He's mad at me.
He's mad at everything.
He's trying to withdraw from the world...
I don't understand.
What exactly happened to him?
Why is he acting like this?

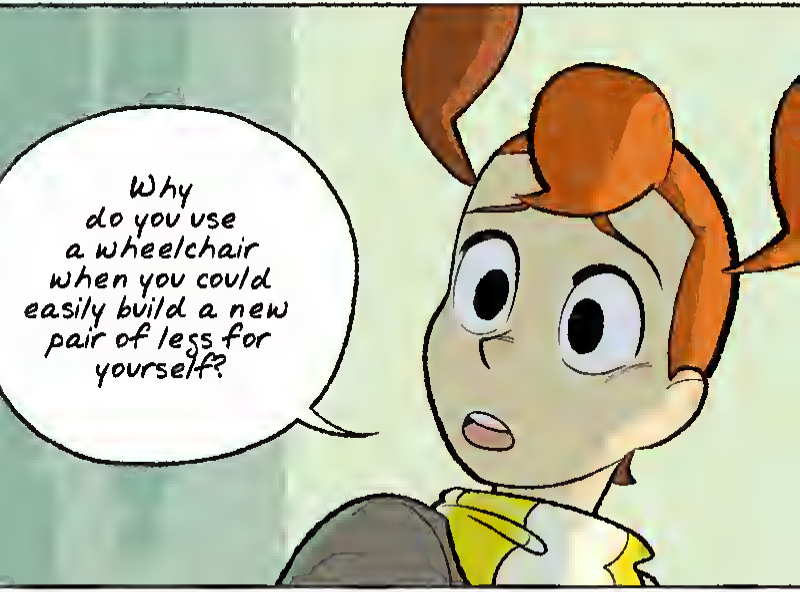
Sigh...

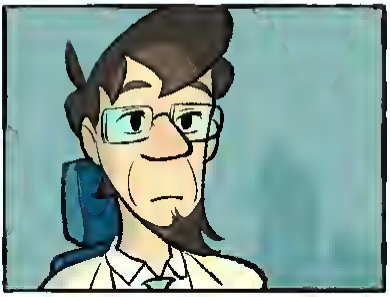


I should probably go.


Dr. Kim, can I ask you a personal question?

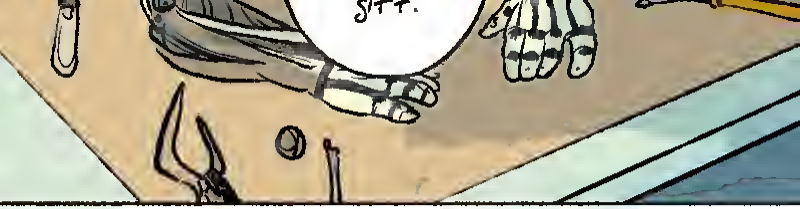



Why do you use a wheelchair when you could easily build a new pair of legs for yourself?



Hmm.

You see more than most people, Amy.
Be careful what you do with that




# SPACE BOY

by

Stephen McCranie

@stephenmccranie

Read more of my comics at doodlealley.com

## L Fox

"Tried Drawing in Animal crossing style
I think it looks fine.. Love ur comic"

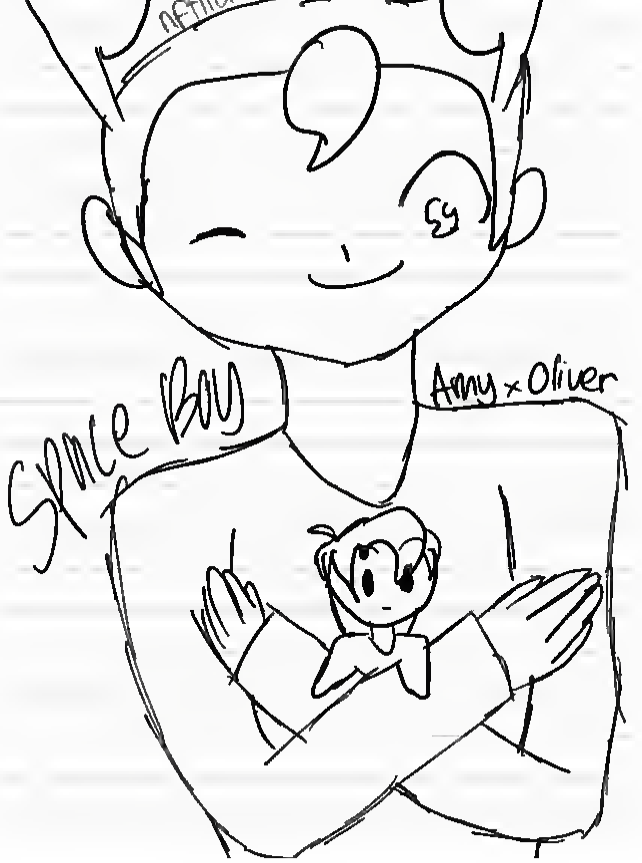
## Jen

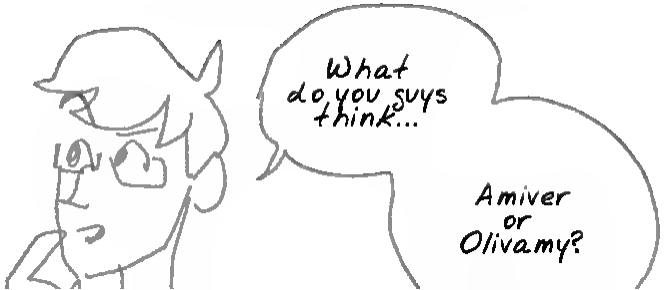
"Hello from Sweden :)

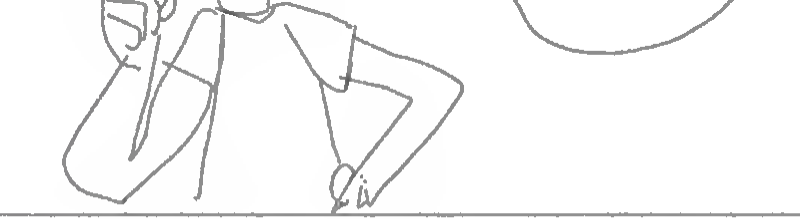
...Here's a drawing of Amy...sorry I made her look kinda vampiric T-T"

# Nafta

"I love Space Boy!
I ship Amy and Oliver always!
Or.. Amiver?"

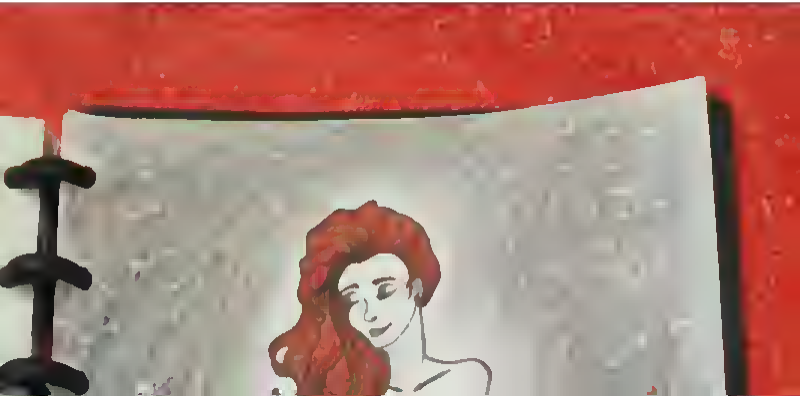

Space Boy
Amy x Oliver


What do you guys think...
Amiver or Olivamy?



# Dewi Mvarifa

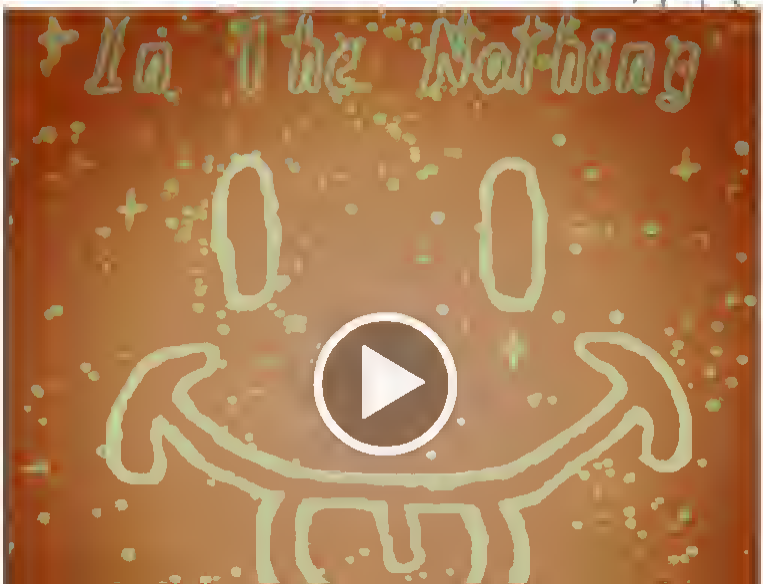
"I would imagine amy adult and should wear long dresses,&some make up w/ longhair down hehe just like disney princess :)"

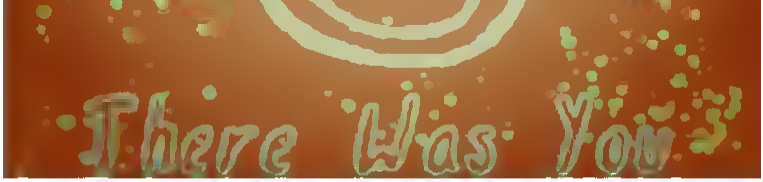


Amy would be a great disney princess...
I can totally see her talkins

animals and singsing with the birds...

Finally, I leave you with this Space Boy inspired playlist, put together by a fan named Flowerbedfires.






Flowerbedfires writes:

"A Space Boy mix, inspired by the relationship between Amy and Oliver.

Thank you, Stephen McCranie.

Your comic helped me during a time of mourning, and for that I'm incredibly grateful."

You can listen to Flowerbedfire's playlist by going to 8tracks.com and searching for "space boy." Or, you can go here:

http://8tracks.com/flowerbedfires/in-the-nothing-there-was-you-1

Thank you!